

V. REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, on grounds that the specification fails to comply with the written description requirement. The claims are amended to obviate the rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. The claims are amended to obviate the rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 9-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Ono et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,430,904). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Ono teaches a paint film transfer device. Mounted in a case, the paint film transfer device has unused tape storage for feedably storing a transfer tape having a transfer paint film formed on one surface of a backing material and a transfer head for pressing on the backing material of the transfer tape fed from the unused tape storage out of the case to transfer the paint film to the transfer tape to a receiving surface. The transfer head includes a tape presser having a tape pressing surface of a width approximately corresponding to a width of the transfer tape and a pair of left and right side plates for limiting sideways movement of a transfer tape portion contacting the tape presser.

Claim 9, as amended, is directed to a coat film transfer tool using a coat film transfer tape of disposable type that includes a case, a feed reel rotatably provided in the case and winding a coat film transfer tape, a take-up reel rotatably provided in the case and collecting the coat film transfer tape after use, an interlock means for linking said feed and take-up reels so as to cooperate with each other, a coat film transfer head protruding at a front end of the case and pressing the coat film transfer tape onto an object of transfer and a clutch means for synchronizing, at least in one of the feed and take-up reels, a feed speed and take-up speed of the coat film transfer tape between the feed and take-up reels. Claim 9 recites that the clutch means composes, at least in one of the feed and take-up reels, power transmission means provided between a tape winding portion for winding up the coat film transfer tape and a rotary drive unit for rotating and driving the tape winding portion.

Additionally, claim 9 recites that the rotary drive unit includes a rotary drive shaft having catch means at one end of the rotary drive shaft and an engaging portion formed at an opposite end of the rotary drive shaft and extending radially outwardly therefrom and the tape winding portion includes a tape winding portion shaft disposed concentrically about the rotary drive shaft for rotation thereabout and having catch receiving means at one end of the tape winding portion shaft for engaging with the catch means and an engaging portion formed at an opposite end of the tape winding portion shaft and defining an annulus end of the tape winding portion shaft. Further, claim 9 recites that the engaging portions are disposed in a facially opposing relationship for frictional and compressing engagement between each other causing a thrust load to the catch means and the catch receiving means, when engaged, thereby preventing relative axial movement between the rotary drive unit and the tape winding portion while affording simultaneous rotational movement of the rotary drive unit and the tape winding portion unless a rotational force to cause rotational movement exceeds a frictional force between the engaging portions.

It is respectfully submitted that the rejection is improper because the applied art fails to teach each element of claim 9 as amended. Specifically, the applied art fails to teach a rotary drive unit that includes a rotary drive shaft having catch means at one end of a rotary drive shaft and an engaging portion formed at an opposite end of the rotary drive shaft and extending radially outwardly therefrom and a tape winding portion that includes a tape winding portion shaft disposed concentrically about the rotary drive shaft for rotation thereabout and having catch receiving means at one end of the tape winding portion shaft for engaging with the catch means and an engaging portion formed at an opposite end of the tape winding portion shaft and defining an annulus end of the tape winding portion shaft with the engaging portions disposed in a facially opposing relationship for frictional and compressing engagement between each other causing a thrust load to the catch means and the catch receiving means, when engaged, thereby preventing relative axial movement between the rotary drive unit and the tape winding portion while affording simultaneous rotational movement of the rotary drive unit and the tape winding portion unless a rotational force to cause rotational movement exceeds a frictional force between the engaging portions. As a result, it is respectfully submitted that claim 9 is allowable over the applied art.

Claim 12, as amended, is directed to a coat film transfer tool using a coat film transfer tape of refill type and includes a case, a feed rotary unit rotatably provided in the case, a take-up rotary unit rotatably provided in the case, an interlock means for linking the feed and take-up rotary units so as to cooperate with each other, a tape cartridge having a feed reel and a take-up reel engaged detachably and rotatably with both the feed and take-up rotary units respectively, a coat film transfer head protruding at a front end of the case and pressing the coat film transfer tape onto an object of transfer and a clutch means for synchronizing, in at least one of the feed and take-up rotary units, a feed speed and take-up speed of the coat film transfer tape in the feed and take-up rotary units. Claim 12 recites that the clutch means composes, at least in one of the feed and take-up rotary units, power transmission means provided between a tape winding portion for winding up the coat film transfer tape and a rotary drive unit for rotating and driving the tape winding portion. Claim 12 further recites that the rotary drive unit includes a rotary drive shaft having catch means at one end of the rotary drive shaft and an engaging portion formed at an opposite end of the rotary drive shaft and extending radially outwardly therefrom and the tape winding portion including a tape winding portion shaft disposed concentrically about the rotary drive shaft for rotation thereabout and having catch receiving means at one end of the tape winding portion shaft for engaging with the catch means and an engaging portion formed at an opposite end of the tape winding portion shaft and defining an annulus end of the tape winding portion shaft. Claim 12 further recites that the engaging portions are disposed in a facially opposing relationship for frictional and compressing engagement between each other causing a thrust load to the catch means and the catch receiving means, when engaged, thereby preventing relative axial movement between the rotary drive unit and the tape winding portion while affording simultaneous rotational movement of the rotary drive unit and the tape winding portion unless a rotational force to cause rotational movement exceeds a frictional force between the engaging portions.

It is respectfully submitted that the rejection is improper because the applied art fails to teach each element of claim 12 as amended. Specifically, the applied art fails to teach a rotary drive unit that includes a rotary drive shaft having catch means at one end of a rotary drive shaft and an engaging portion formed at an opposite end of the rotary drive shaft and extending radially outwardly therefrom and a tape

winding portion that includes a tape winding portion shaft disposed concentrically about the rotary drive shaft for rotation thereabout and having catch receiving means at one end of the tape winding portion shaft for engaging with the catch means and an engaging portion formed at an opposite end of the tape winding portion shaft and defining an annulus end of the tape winding portion shaft with the engaging portions disposed in a facially opposing relationship for frictional and compressing engagement between each other causing a thrust load to the catch means and the catch receiving means, when engaged, thereby preventing relative axial movement between the rotary drive unit and the tape winding portion while affording simultaneous rotational movement of the rotary drive unit and the tape winding portion unless a rotational force to cause rotational movement exceeds a frictional force between the engaging portions. As a result, it is respectfully submitted that claim 12 is allowable over the applied art.

Claims 10 and 11 depend from claim 9 and include all of the features of claim 9. Claims 13 and 14 depend from claim 12 and include all of the features of claim 12. It is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims are allowable at least for the reasons the independent claims are allowable as well as for the features they recite.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Ono. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1, as amended, is directed to a clutch mechanism of coat film transfer tool that includes a feed reel with a coat film transfer tape wound thereabout and a take-up reel for collecting the coat film transfer tape after use with the take-up reel cooperating with the feed reel in a case to synchronize a feed speed and take-up speed of the coat film transfer tape in both reels and power transmission means provided between a tape winding portion for winding up the coat film transfer tape and a rotary drive unit for rotating and driving the tape winding portion. Claim 1 recites that the power transmission means is composed in at least one of the feed and take-up reels that engages the tape winding portion for rotation therewith, and the rotary drive unit includes a rotary drive shaft having catch means at one end of the rotary drive shaft and an engaging portion formed at an opposite end of the rotary drive shaft and extending radially outwardly therefrom and the tape winding

portion includes a tape winding portion shaft disposed concentrically about the rotary drive shaft for rotation thereabout and having catch receiving means at one end of the tape winding portion shaft for engaging with the catch means and an engaging portion formed at an opposite end of the tape winding portion shaft and defining an annulus end of the tape winding portion shaft. Claim 1 further recite that the engaging portions are disposed in a facially opposing relationship for frictional and compressing engagement between each other causing a thrust load to the catch means and the catch receiving means, when engaged, thereby preventing relative axial movement between the rotary drive unit and the tape winding portion while affording simultaneous rotational movement of the rotary drive unit and the tape winding portion unless a rotational force to cause rotational movement exceeds a frictional force between the engaging portions.

It is respectfully submitted that the rejection is improper because the applied art fails to teach each element of claim 1. Specifically, it is respectfully submitted that the applied art fails to teach a tape winding portion that includes a tape winding portion shaft disposed concentrically about the rotary drive shaft for rotation thereabout and having catch receiving means at one end of the tape winding portion shaft for engaging with the catch means and an engaging portion formed at an opposite end of the tape winding portion shaft and defining an annulus end of the tape winding portion shaft with the engaging portions disposed in a facially opposing relationship for frictional and compressing engagement between each other causing a thrust load to the catch means and the catch receiving means, when engaged, thereby preventing relative axial movement between the rotary drive unit and the tape winding portion while affording simultaneous rotational movement of the rotary drive unit and the tape winding portion unless a rotational force to cause rotational movement exceeds a frictional force between the engaging portions. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is allowable over the applied art.

Claims 2 and 8 depend from claim 1 and include all of the features of claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims are allowable at least for the reasons claim 1 is allowable as well as for the features they recite.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 3-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Ono. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 3-7 depend from claim 1 and include all of the features of claim 1. It is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims are allowable at least for the reasons claim 1 is allowable as well as for the features they recite.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

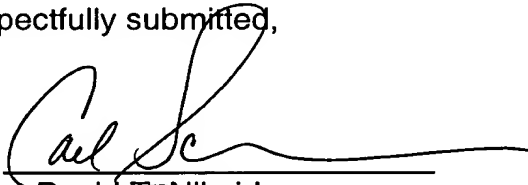
In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper or if a Petition for Extension of Time is required for timely acceptance of the same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 18-0013 for any such fees and Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure(s): Petition for Extension of Time (3 months)

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